STATE OF CONNECTICUT STATE ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of a Complaint by Elisabeth Kines City of Hartford

File No. 2019-037

AGREEMENT CONTAINING A CONSENT ORDER

This Agreement by and between the Robert Anthony, Town of Hamden, State of Connecticut, hereinafter referred to as Respondent, and the undersigned authorized representative of the State Elections Enforcement Commission, is entered into in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 4-177 (c) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies § 9-7b-54. In accordance herewith, the parties agree that:

- 1. Respondent, Robert Anthony, serves as the treasurer for the Connecticut Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut (CUPFFAC) PAC, a political committee registered with the Commission.¹
- 2. Complainant Elisabeth Kines filed this complaint alleging that the CUPFFAC PAC had failed to report expenditures that the committee had made between June 30, 2018 and September 30, 2018. On June 30, 2018, the committee reported having in its bank account a total of \$28,223.88. By the end of the subsequent reporting period, on September 30, 2018, the committee reported having \$517.38 on hand. There were no expenditures reported to account for the difference.
- 3. Respondent Anthony met with Commission investigators and was cooperative in the investigation.
- 4. Anthony said that he had worked with the union's accounting firm to determine how the money was spent in the political committee's bank accounts in order to update the committee's campaign finance filings. The accountant had examined the union's bank accounts and had provided Anthony with an inventory of the items that he needed to update in order to bring the committee's online filings up-to-date. The accountant was able to reconcile the political committee's records to confirm that no money was missing. Anthony will update the committee's online records so that they account for all of the transactions that were omitted from its earlier public filings.
- 5. The accounting firm, Maletta & Company, confirmed that it had reviewed the SEEC forms for CUPFFAC PAC that Anthony had filed between January 1, 2011 and March

¹ See SEEC Form 3NC – Political Committee (PAC) Biennial Re-Registration Without Changes – Connecticut Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut PAC (Nov. 13, 2018) (reflecting Robert Anthony's continued appointment as treasurer of UPFFA of CT political committee).

- 31, 2019. The accountants noted the omissions from the forms that needed to be made to reconcile the committee's filings with its bank account during that time period.
- 6. General Statutes § 9-608(a) requires committee treasurers to file periodic statements on behalf of the committees for which they serve as treasurer. General Statutes § 9-608(c)(1)(B) requires those statements to include:

an itemized accounting of each expenditure, if any, including the full name and complete address of each payee, including secondary payees whenever the primary or principal payee is known to include charges which the primary payee has already paid or will pay directly to another person, vendor or entity, the amount and the purpose of the expenditure, the candidate supported or opposed by the expenditure, whether the expenditure is made independently of the candidate supported or is an in-kind contribution to the candidate, and a statement of the balance on hand or deficit, as the case may be; . . .

- 7. General Statutes § 9-7b(a)(2)(D) authorizes the Commission to impose a civil penalty of as much as \$2,000 per offense for any failure to comply with the reporting requirements under General Statutes § 9-608.
- 8. According to the Commission's investigation, Anthony, as treasurer for the CUPFFAC PAC, failed to report the expenditures of the political committee as required by General Statutes § 9-608.
- 9. Respondent agrees that this Agreement and Order shall have the same force and effect as a final decision and Order entered into after a full hearing and shall become final when adopted by the Commission.
- 10. The parties agree that Respondent waives:
 - a) Any further procedural steps;
 - b) The requirement that the Commission's decision contain a statement of findings of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated; and
 - c) All rights to seek judicial review or otherwise to challenge or contest the validity of the Order entered into pursuant to this Agreement.
- 11. It is understood and agreed that this Agreement will be submitted to the Commission for consideration at its next meeting and, if the Commission does not accept it, it is withdrawn and may not be used as an admission by the Respondent in any subsequent hearing, if the same becomes necessary.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Robert Anthony violated General Statutes § 9-608 by failing to report all expenditures made by the Connecticut Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut PAC during 2018. He has agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$200 to resolve this matter and will update the relevant filings to the best of his ability.

The Respondent	For the State of Connecticut
By: Robert Anthony 95 Handy Road Hamden, CT 06518	Michael J. Brandi, Esq. Executive Director and General Counsel and Authorized Representative of the State Elections Enforcement Commission 20 Trinity St., Suite 101 Hartford, CT 06106
Dated: <u>6-3-3030</u>	Dated: 6/10/2020
Adopted this 17 day of Jull, 2020 at H	lartford, Connecticut by vote of the Commission.
	Vice Commissioner Chan
	By Order of the Commission

Salvatore A. BRAMANE